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FRAME FOR MIRRORS, PICTURES, AND THE LIKE

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Fig. 1.

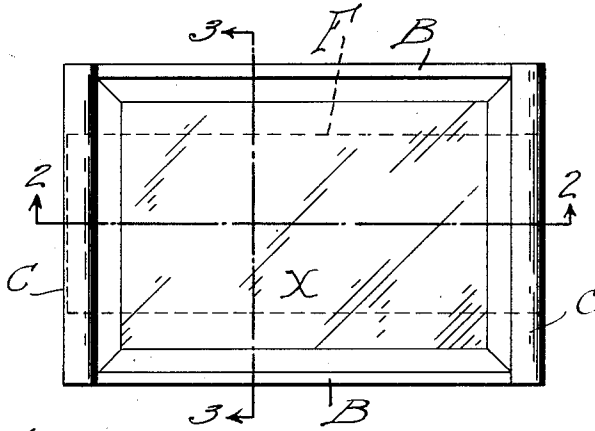


Fig. 2.

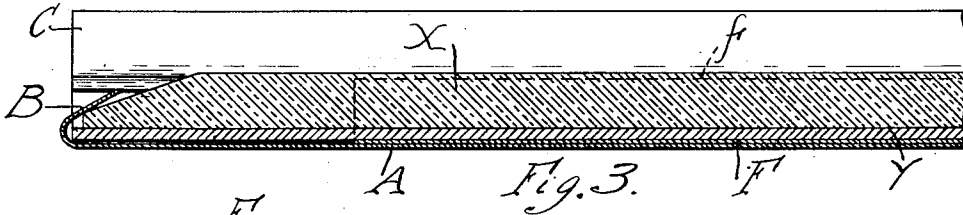
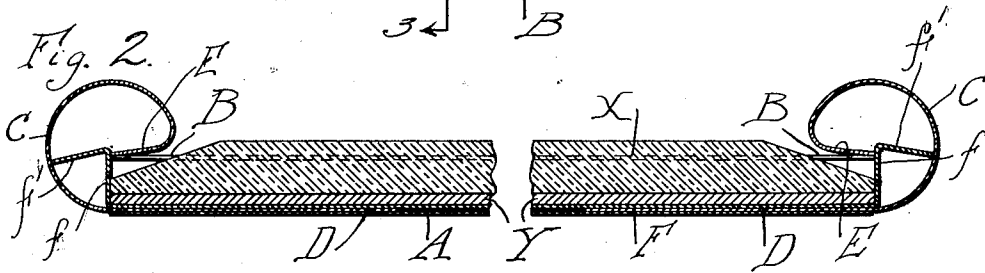


Fig. 3.

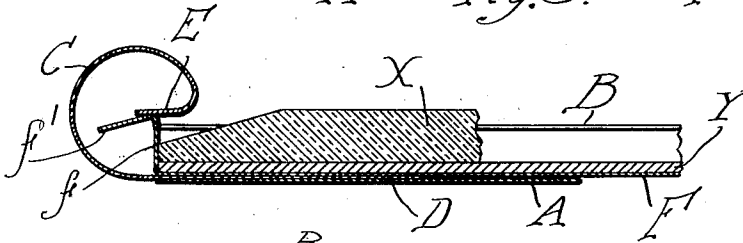


Fig. 4.

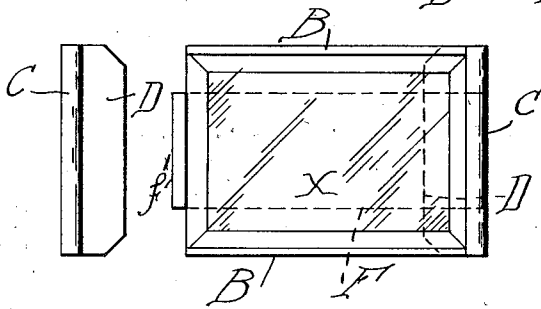


Fig. 5.

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FRAME FOR MIRRORS, PICTURES, AND THE LIKE

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This invention relates to frames for mirrors, pictures and other articles which are so made that the frame may be readily opened or taken apart and assembled, to remove and replace an article.

The objects of this invention are to provide a frame of this kind in which two of the sides are formed or bent into scroll shapes and, when assembled to form a frame, overlap the portions of the edges of other sides to form a frame which is easily constructed and assembled; also to provide a frame of this kind in which the scroll shaped edges may overlap the other edges of the frame to varying degrees to accommodate articles of different sizes with which the frame is to be used; also to provide a frame of this kind in which the scroll shaped edges frictionally and resiliently engage the other edges to keep the parts of the frame in assembled relation to each other; also to provide a means of improved construction for locking the removable sides of the frame together; also to improve the construction of frames of this kind in other respects hereinafter specified.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a face view of a frame embodying this invention.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional elevation thereof on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, on an enlarged scale and partly broken away.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view thereof on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view thereof, similar to Fig. 2 but showing one of the end members about to be placed in its operative position.

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the frame showing one of the end members in position to be inserted into its end of the frame.

In the embodiment of this invention which is shown in the accompanying drawings, the frame includes a body or back portion A which is substantially co-extensive with the entire back of the frame. The frame also in-

cludes two opposite side flanges or parts which retain the opposite sides of a picture, mirror or other article in the frame and which flanges are permanently secured in any desired manner to the back A. In the construction shown, the back has opposite sides thereof bent over toward each other as indicated at B to form the two sides of the frame. This body portion of the frame may consequently be made in any suitable or desired manner from a flat sheet of metal or other material, and the bending of the sides thereof may be effected in an ordinary bending machine so that the use of dies is unnecessary for manufacturing this portion of the frame.

The article X which is to be framed and which may be of any suitable kind such, for example, as a picture, mirror or the like, is inserted endwise between the two opposite flanges or sides B of the body portion of the frame, one or both of the other two sides of the frame being left open for this purpose.

One or both of the other two sides of the frame are finished by means of scroll shaped members C, which are preferably also formed from sheet material and each of which is provided with a tab or extension D which may be inserted into the open ends of the body portion of the frame preferably between the back portion A and the article X or a mat or pad Y, which may be placed between the back face of the article and the back of the frame to prevent damage to the articles by parts of the frame. The tabs are preferably also of such width as to fit at its opposite sides under the edges or sides B of the frame.

The scroll which forms a continuation of the tab or projection D is of a diameter considerably larger than the distance between the ends of the sides B and the back of the body portion A and is preferably curled or bent inwardly to extend over the edge of the article, and the end E thereof is bent abruptly to extend into the scroll and may be in-

clined as shown so as to engage with the side B of the body portion A. These scroll members are preferably also made by means of a bending machine of usual construction, so that dies, which are usually necessary for the manufacture of frames of this kind are not required for the manufacture of this frame, thereby effecting a material saving in expense, particularly when it is desired to make the frames in a number of different sizes.

The scroll shaped ends C of the frame are preferably made of resilient material so that the curled in portions E may frictionally and yieldingly engage the sides B of the body portion of the frame and thus releasably hold the scroll shaped ends of the frame in place. The tabs D may be held in place by the friction between the tabs and the parts of the frame and article or pad engaged thereby, and by the friction of the curled end portions E on the sides B, or, if desired, one of these tabs may be permanently secured to the back portion A of the frame. When the tabs of the scroll shaped ends or sides are not permanently secured to the body portion A of the frame, they can be inserted to different distances into the open sides or ends of the body portion so as to accommodate articles X of varying lengths. Consequently the frame embodying this invention is adjustable so as to cooperate with articles differing somewhat in length.

It might be desirable in some cases to provide a frame of this kind with means for locking the scroll shaped ends of the frame in place and preferably such locking means are so formed as to guide the scroll shaped ends into positions accurately at right angles to the sides B of the body portion of the frame. This can be easily effected in the construction shown by placing a strip of flexible metal or similar material F between the mirror or other article to be framed and the back A of the frame. This strip of metal is preferably of considerable width and is provided at its ends with legs or portions *f* which are bent to extend toward the front face of the frame and are preferably so made as to engage the ends of the articles X. These bent parts terminate in outwardly and slightly inclined end portions *f'* as is clearly shown in Figs. 2, 4 and 5. When a retaining strip of this kind is employed, the tabs or projections D of the scroll shaped portions are inserted into the ends of the frame between the back A and the strip F. The inclinations of the ends *f'* of the strip F and of the inwardly bent ends E of the scrolls are such that these ends of the scrolls can easily ride over the ends of the strip F as indicated in Fig. 4 until the inwardly bent ends E pass beyond the inclined parts *f'* of the strip, whereupon the ends E of the scrolls will, because of their resiliency, snap into locking engagement with the upright flanges or parts *f* of the strip F

as clearly shown in Fig. 2. When in these positions the removal of the scrolls from the frame will be positively resisted and furthermore because of the width of the strip F, the scrolls will be securely positioned at right angles to the sides B of the frame and will also be held against movement in either direction lengthwise of the frame.

The scrolls will, of course, be held against lateral movement by the sides B of the frame so that they will be securely locked in their correct positions and when in these positions, the ends of the portions *f'* of the strip F will engage with portions of the scrolls C, thus reinforcing the end portions of the strip F to better enable these bent end portions to resist the removal of the scrolls C from the frame.

By the use of these strips F, the accurate assembling of the frames is assured, and the speed with which the scrolls can be accurately positioned and locked relatively to other parts of the frame is greatly increased, it being merely necessary for an operator to insert the tabs of the scrolls between the strip F and the back A of the frames and then press the two scrolls of each frame toward each other until the scrolls snap into their locking positions. If desired, one of the scrolls may be permanently secured in its correct position relatively to the back of the frame, for example, by riveting, welding or the like, in which case the article to be framed and the strip F are pushed lengthwise between the sides B of the frame until the end of the strip F engages the scroll which is fastened to the back, and the other scroll can then be inserted as already described.

It will be understood that the strip F may be entirely omitted if desired, for example, in a frame in which it is desired to remove or replace from time to time the articles which are being framed. If desired, other means for resisting the removal of the scroll shaped ends from the frame may be provided.

I claim:—

1. In a frame for mirrors and other articles, the combination of a back, opposite sides fixed to said back and adapted to confine the opposite sides of an article in correct relation to said back, side members for the remaining sides of said frame and each having a part adapted to enter between the said opposite sides of said frame and having a scroll shaped extension bent over the face of said frame, and a strip of material arranged between said back and said article and having ends bent to engage and extend beyond said article and against said extending portions of which said scrolls are adapted to engage to hold said side members in correct relation to said frame.

2. In a frame for mirrors and other articles, the combination of a back, opposite sides fixed to said back and adapted to confine op-

posite sides of an article in correct relation to said back, side members for the remaining sides of said frame and each having a part adapted to enter between said opposite sides of said frame and a scroll shaped extension bent over an edge portion of the face of said frame, and a strip of material arranged between said back and said article and having hook shaped ends adapted to engage said scrolls to retain said side members in their operative positions.

3. In a frame for mirrors and other articles, the combination of a back, opposite sides fixed to said back and adapted to confine opposite sides of an article in correct relation to said back, side members for the remaining sides of said frame and each having a scroll shaped portion arranged to extend over an edge portion of the face of said frame, and a retaining member including a strip of material arranged between the article and said back and having its end portions bent to form angularly extending flanges engaging with said remaining sides of the article and longitudinally extending flanges adapted to engage with portions of said scroll shaped extensions, said side members having parts adapted to enter between said retaining member and said back of said frame, whereby said side members engage with said retaining member to lock said side members against movement relatively to said retaining member.

4. In a frame for mirrors and other articles, the combination of a back, opposite sides fixed to said back and adapted to confine opposite sides of an article in correct relation to said back, side members for the remaining sides of said frame and each having a part adapted to enter between said opposite sides of said frame and a scroll shaped extension bent over an edge portion of the face of said frame so as to extend at right angles to said first mentioned sides, and a strip of material arranged between said back and said article and having bent ends adapted to engage with the ends of said scroll shaped extensions and an intermediate portion thereof for locking said side members in fixed relation to said strip, the width of the bent ends of said strip being of such width relative to the width of said side members that the engagement of these parts will retain the scroll extensions of said members at right angles to said first mentioned article confining sides on said back.

5. In a frame for mirrors and other articles, the combination of a back, opposite sides fixed to said back and adapted to confine opposite sides of an article in correct relation to said back, side members for the remaining sides of said frame and each having a part adapted to enter between said opposite sides of said frame and a scroll shaped extension bent over an edge portion of the

face of said frame so as to extend at right angles to said first mentioned sides, and a strip of material arranged between said back and said article and having flanges bent toward the face of said frame and engaging the ends of the article, and flanges extending substantially lengthwise of said frame, said two sets of flanges cooperating with said scrolls to lock the scrolls in fixed relation to said strip and to hold said scroll shaped side members at right angles to said first mentioned article confining sides on said back.

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